

Robin Zachariah Tharakan

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EXPERIENCE

- Research Fellow** Jul. 2023 – Present
Siegel Family Endowment | Annual giving of \$30M for technology & society initiatives *New York, NY*
- Co-developed the organization's three-year (2024-2026) strategy for digital infrastructure interest area
 - Drafted the tactical approach to trust-based and participatory giving through effective philanthropy practice area
 - Prepared the research plan & conducted literature review to develop the grant-making portfolio in civic knowledge
 - Conducted due diligence on potential grantees and collaborated with program team to source and execute grants
- Engagement Manager** Sep. 2020 – Jul. 2021
University of Chicago | Development consulting research at Harris School of Public Policy *NCR, India*
- Led the Technology Policy practice area (\$250K in projects & 10 consultants), advising the federal government
 - Designed and managed a multi-year, \$500K research fellowship to support young scholars in technology policy
- Project Lead* Sep. 2019 - Aug. 2020
- Managed \$250K in a multi-stakeholder projects to implement digital public infrastructure for capacity building
 - Steered the design and development of an open-source learning platform for public servants in 4,400+ Indian cities
- Project Associate* Jan. 2019 - Aug. 2019
- Designed implementation road-map for a multi-stakeholder project to develop open-source language technologies
 - Drafted policy recommendations to promote vernacular language equity on online services and digital products
 - Executed Facebook Data for Good India launch roadshow to showcase innovative solutions to disaster response
- Associate Consultant** Jan. 2017 – Oct. 2018
ZS (formerly ZS Associates) | Management consulting focused on global healthcare *MH, India*
- Built the off-shore revenue management vertical (25+ consultants), achieving revenue growth of 6% for 700+ hotels
 - Led team of 5 consultants on reporting operations, payer analytics, ad-hoc advisory, and business development
- Associate* Sep. 2014 - Dec. 2016
- Responsible for planned and ad-hoc managed care operational analytics for a major pharmaceutical client
 - Designed, developed, and handled monthly operations on three reporting projects across two Fortune 500 clients

RESEARCH PROJECTS

- Ranking Digital Rights, New America** | *Telco Giants Scorecard 2022* May. 2022 – Aug. 2022
- Conducted an exhaustive review of the privacy policies of two largest telecommunications companies in Asia
 - Evaluated privacy and freedom of expression commitments within policies across companies and time periods
- Decodis** | *Digital Portfolios of the Poor* Jan. 2022 – May. 2023
- Developed the framework to compare the privacy policies of top mobile apps in four different countries
 - Prepared the comparative analyses of data retention & usage practices of 100+ mobile apps
 - Supported the qualitative research to understand online privacy perceptions among rural phone users in India
- reState** | *Future of Governance Toolkit* Nov. 2022 – May. 2023
- Developed the taxonomy to represent varied models of governance across domains and geographies
 - Researched 100+ governance models to select 35 novel methods to present at World Government Summit 2023

EDUCATION

- The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University** Boston, MA
Master of Arts in Law and Diplomacy, Specialization in Governance & Technology Policy Sep. 2021 - May 2023
- National Institute of Technology Calicut** KL, India
Bachelor of Technology in Computer Science and Engineering Aug. 2010 – May 2014

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Volunteering:** Teach For India, NYC Open Data, Free and Open-Source Software (FOSS)
Certifications: Digital Trust & Safety (LinkedIn); Revenue Management (Coursera)
Technical Skills: Advanced — Microsoft Office Suite, Google Workspace; Proficient — Airtable, GivingData, SQL, R; Basic — Tableau, Drupal, SAS, PHP